

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A slack forming mechanism for an annular stator stack including a plurality of magnetic teeth on an inside wall, stator coils that wind around the plurality of magnetic teeth and having terminal parts, a connector provided with attachment pins to which the terminal parts of each of the stator coils are coupled, and two projecting parts that extend substantially in parallel from an outer periphery of the stator stack and that hold the connector arranged between them such that a clearance is formed between the connector and the stator stack, the slack forming mechanism comprising an attachment jig for coupling the stator stack to a coiling machine and including a protruding member extending through the clearance and having a top edge that projects above the clearance, wherein slack is formed in a stator coil by having the stator coil traverse the clearance and contact the protruding member to upwardly deflect the stator coil to form the slack.

Claim 2 (Original): The slack forming mechanism of claim 1 wherein the clearance is substantially rectangular in shape and the protruding member is substantially rectangular in shape.

Claims 3 - 5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A slack forming mechanism comprising a stator attachment jig for receiving and coupling a stator to a coil winding machine and a slack forming member extending from the jig and adapted to extend through an opening between a stator body and a coil wire connector, the slack forming member upwardly deflecting a winding coil to create slack in a coil—, and wherein the slack forming member is integral with the attachment jig and extends through the opening formed between an outer periphery of a stator body and a coil wire connector.

Claim 7 - 12 (Canceled)